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Patent 06371 USA

OCT 0 5 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of: Phillip A. Armstrong, et al.

Serial No.: 10/627,044

Group Art Unit: 1724

Filed: 25 July, 2003

Examiner: Charles S. Bushey

Wall-Flow Redistributor for Packed Columns

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PROVISIONAL ELECTION IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2004 with respect to this application. This response is being filed within the one-month shortened statutory period set for response in the Office Action.

The Examiner set forth a restriction requirement requiring the Applicants to select a single set of claims for examination purposes from the following:

- Claims 1-14, drawn to an apparatus and process for collecting and redistributing, classified in class 261, subclass 97.
- Ħ. Claim 15, drawn to a cryogenic air separation process, classified in class 62, subclass 640.
- III. Claim 16, drawn to a method of assembly, classified in class 29, subclass 28.

Applicants provisionally elect claims 1-14. Applicants' provisional election is made with traverse.

The Examiner also concluded that there are three (3) patentably distinct species of

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Response (5 October, 2004)

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(Substitute) PTO/SB/21 (02-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Palent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Panerwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/627,044 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date July 25, 2003 FORM First Named Inventor Phillip A. Armstrong, et al. Art Unit (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Examiner Name Charles S. Bushey Attorney Docket Number 06371 USA Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance communication Fee Transmittal Form (in duplicate) Drawing(s) to Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Terminal Disclaimer Identify below): Extension of Time Request Provisional Election in Response to Request for Refund Express Abandonment Request Restriction Requirement CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parls under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 Please charge Attorney Account No. 03-0075 as necessary to effect entry and/or ensure consideration of this submission. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Flom Caesar, Rivise, Bernstein, Cohen & Pokotilow, Ltd.; Customer No. 03000 Individual name Signature Date October 5, 200 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patenta, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. [Transmitted to Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306] Typed or printed name James J Kozuch October 5, 2004 Signature This collection of Information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS

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